TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 11 totaled 327,281, up 2.2 percent from both the comparable week of 1988 and the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 4.8 percent in the East but down 0.9 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,249 cars (12.0 percent), and loadings of metalic ores were up 1,711 cars (15.5 percent). Grain loadings were down 5,531 cars (17.1 percent), at least partly because of poor weather conditions in the West.

Cumulative carloadings for the first 6 weeks of 1989 totaled 1,964,735, up 1.4 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 111,343 trailers and/or containers for the week ended February 11, down 0.2 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 6 weeks of 1989 was 647,631 trailers and/or containers, up 0.3 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended February 11 totaled 19.1 billion, 2.1 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 6 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 114.0 billion ton-miles, up 1.8 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,827	32,358	-17.1 %	30,746	-12.7 %
Farm Products, Ex Grain	1,657	2,681	-38.2	2,380	-30.4
Metallic Ores	12,718	11,007	15.5	12,511	1.7
Coal	115,524	113,468	1.9	111,416	3.8
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	9,643	10,389	-7.2	11,255	-14.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,932	10,007	-10.7	8,558	4.4
Grain Mill Products	10,124	10,325	-1.9	10,243	-1.2
Food & Kindred Products	8,485	9,360	-9.3	8,741	-2.9
Primary Forest Products	8,446	10,789	-21.7	9,487	-11.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,004	7,718	-22.2	6,978	-14.0
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,448	11,314	-7.7	11,045	-5.4
Chemicals	26,076	27,361	-4.7	29,220	-10.8
Petroleum Products	4,438	4,821	-7.9	4,891	-9.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	8,632	8,804	-2.0	9,306	-7.2
Coke	5,553	5,586	-.6	5,770	-3.8
Metals & Products	9,129	10,205	-10.5	10,426	-12.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,970	18,721	12.0	21,367	-1.9
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,912	9,195	-3.1	8,973	-.7
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	5	22	-77.3	9	-44.4
All Other Carloads	24,658	6,169	299.7	6,836	260.7
Total	**327,281**	**320,300**	**2.2 %**	**320,158**	**2.2 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 6 WEEKS ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**327,281**	**320,300**	**2.2 %**	**1,964,735**	**1,938,376**	**1.4 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	65,823	70,980	-7.3	385,178	401,847	-4.1
Containers	45,520	40,546	12.3	262,453	243,633	7.7
Total	**111,343**	**111,526**	**-.2**	**647,631**	**645,480**	**.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.1**	**18.7**	**2.1 %**	**114.0**	**112.0**	**1.8 %**

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